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5 Minute Flashcards Card 9: Failed intubation QUESTIONS



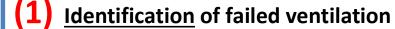
Case:

A 55 year-old obese man is being anaesthetised by a consultant anaesthetist. They are unable to mask ventilate, so attempt to place a endotracheal tube but are unsuccessful.



3 Questions and discussion:

- 1. What things could the theatre team do to help the anaesthetist?
- What position should be patient be in for eFONA?
- 3. Where is the **difficult airway trolley** in Gloucester and Cheltenham theatres?
- 4. Where is the the 'emergency front of neck' kit, and the CICO guideline?
- 5. Who would be best suited to perform emergency front of neck airway during the daytime?
- 6. If the eFONA kit can't be found, what equipment could the theatre team get for the anaesthetist/ ENT surgeon?



If the anaesthetist is unable to ventilate the patient, what signs might the theatre team notice?

Calling for help

How can we call for help in theatres? Would this be any different at night?





(2) A second anaesthetist arrives and is also unable to intubate the patient. They state that this is a 'Can't Intubate, Can't Oxygenate' (CICO) emergency. What does this mean?

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Card 9: Failed intubation ANSWERS!



(3)

- Get resus trolley, get difficult airway trolley.
 Speak up! "Do we need to consider a front of neck airway?"
- 2. Neck in extension... consider sliding up the bed
- Cheltenham: outside Theatre 3Gloucester: main corridor and outside Theatre 8
- 4. Anaesthetics team to show theatre team eFONA bag in anaesthetic room
- 5. Either:

Anaesthetist – emergency cricothyroidotomy or ENT surgeon – emergency tracheostomy Check ENT theatres and their coffee room!

Equipment:
 Scalpel #10 blade
 Bougie with angled tip
 Tracheal tube - cuffed, size 6.0 mm.



Patient turns blue Low saturations No capnography trace Remember "no trace = wrong place!"

Calling for help

Emergency buzzer Runner 2222 Airway emergency - alerts ENT

(2) Can't Intubate Can't Oxygenate

(CICO) is an airway emergency where there is an inability to restore oxygenation using any airway device (facemask, supraglottic device, endotracheal tube). This requires emergency Front Of Neck Access (eFONA).

Further learning:

Royal College of Anaesthetists / Difficicult Airway Society: Capnography – No trace = Wrong place NAP4 Study - Major Complications of Airway Management in the United Kingdom